The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20170808095730/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Ban all banners!

Thumbnails
Toenails
Belly Buttons

and

their influence on the meaning of life

Paths, not all of them well trodden

Walking like an Egyptian

The path to Eternity
4000 years of history - eternity? Close enough.

Where I Clean My Brushes and where the paint drips

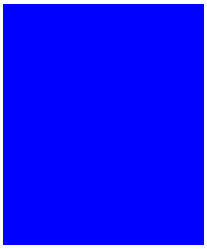
The path of the Brush
The path of the Bullet
The path of Paint Dropping

Belly buttons

The path to Nirvana

Paranoia

The path to Hell - You didn't expect me to give you a LINK, did you?



Blues

The path to the Soul

Ingrown Toenails, metaphorical ones of course

1. Let's not take Alphonse's bad old times as a model for our own. Advocating a reasonable attitude towards drugs.
2. Life, the Universe and Everything: The Ultimate Answer
3. Humpty's Page
4. The Plant Rights Page
5. Remembering Eeyore
6. Capitalism's Finest Hour
7. Off with his Head

This homepage's *raison d'être*

A few thumbnails for your delectation

The Inevitable *About Myself* Part

Louis was quite good at self glorification.

But so are We, aren't we?

My path to fame

Drop me a line

MySelf - Thumbnails - IngrownToenails - BrushWork - BellyButtons - AncientEgypt

---

Check out what our sponsor has to offer:

SunSpot Ink.

Show your support for
the Pacific Northwest Tree Octopus

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20170930154144/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Where I Clean My Brushes, part I

The Colour of My Dreams
Oil, 70x52 cm, 1999

Birth
Oil, 60x80 cm, 1999

The Sea
Oil, 60x80 cm, 1999

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20170930154243/http://www.reshafim.o...

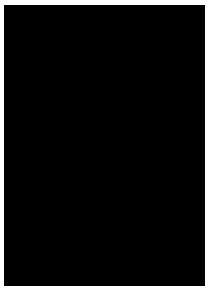
Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

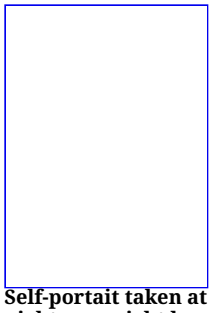
Self-Portraits



Self-portait with stray, copyright by the author, 1998. Archivally processed gelatin silver print. Image size 9"x12".

Myself at night. Probably not the best picture in the world but rather revealing. By the way, the cat isn't mine.

(Mind you, we've had lots of cats. Never quite as black as this one, though. Our first cat was white all over with a black spot on her forehead, so we called her Cain. When we got a puppy (black with a white spot - on his chest), we called him Abel, perhaps an unfortunate choice of name: Abel died a few months later. Poisoning was suspected.)



Self-portait taken at night, copyright by the author, 1998. Archivally processed jelloe gold print. Image size 9"x12".

Having underexposed my self-portrait at the first attempt, I used a flash this time. Using a mirror may have been a mistake.

For comparison: Some Other People's Self Portraits

A

- Ivan Albright
- Anne Arden McDonald

B

- Will Barnett
- James Barry
- Jack Beal
- Thomas Hart Benton
- Sandro Botticelli from *The Adoration of the Magi*
- Romaine Brooks

C

- Cézanne
- Christopher Paul Cobb
- Frank Covino
- John Steuart Curry

D

- Salvador Dali 1904-1989
- Pierre Daura
- Edwin Dickinson
- Gerrit Dou
- Albrecht Dürer
- Anton van Dyck 1599-1641

E

- el Greco
- Maurits Cornelis Escher

F

- André Franquin
- Lucian Freud

G

- Vincent van Gogh
- Sarah Goodridge
- Mike Gowland
- Goya
- Mikhail Grobman
- Guda

H

- HAL
- William Hogarth 1697-1764
- Edward Hopper 1882-1967

J

- Lester Johnson
- William H. Johnson

K

- Morris Kantor
- Susan Kaprov
- Paul Klee

L

- Vigée LeBrun
- John Lennon
- Maurice Quentin Le Tour

M

- Claude Monet
- Bill Murphy

N

- François Joseph Navez

O

P

- Picasso
- Alice Pike Barney
- Pissaro
- Pollock
- Poussin

R

- Raphael
- Rembrandt
- Renoir
- Diego Rivera
- Priscilla Roberts
- Norman Rockwell
- Henri Rousseau
- Rubens
- Charles M. Russell

S

- Alice Warder Seely
- Charles Sheeler
- Charles Sheeler
- Michael Strang
- Michael Sweerts

T

- Titian

V

- Velazquez
- Jan Vermeer
- Leonardo da Vinci

W

- Andy Warhol
- Tempee F. Warmack
- Benjamin West
- James McNeill Whistler
- Ronnie Williams

Z

- Feodor Zakharov

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20170930154159/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

My Humble Collection of Painted Thumbnails

Instructions
Click the thumb nail which catches your fancy

The owners of the thumb nails

- A farmer's wife
- Venus
- Madame d'Estrée
- Narcissus
- Nikolas Kratzer
- Albrecht Dürer
- An astronomer
- Bath-Sheba
- A fool
- A cheat
- The goddess Hathor
- King Seti I
- A working girl
- A luteplayer
- A draftsman

The Manicurist

Pablo Picasso
An Ancient Greek?
A Frenchman?
Salvador Dali
Hans Holbein
Albrecht Dürer
Jan Vermeer
Rembrandt
Hieronymus Bosch
Georges de La Tour
An Egyptian?
The same Egyptian?
An American?
Joan Miro
Maurits Cornelis Escher

- A peasant Pieter Bruegel

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20170930154204/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Ingrowing Toenails, metaphorically speaking, of course

1. Let's not take Alphonse's bad old times as a model for our own. Advocating a reasonable attitude towards drugs.
2. Life, the Universe and Everything: The Ultimate Answer
3. Humpty's Page
4. The Plant Rights Page
5. Remembering Eeyore
6. Capitalism's Finest Hour
7. Off with his Head

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140830202429/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

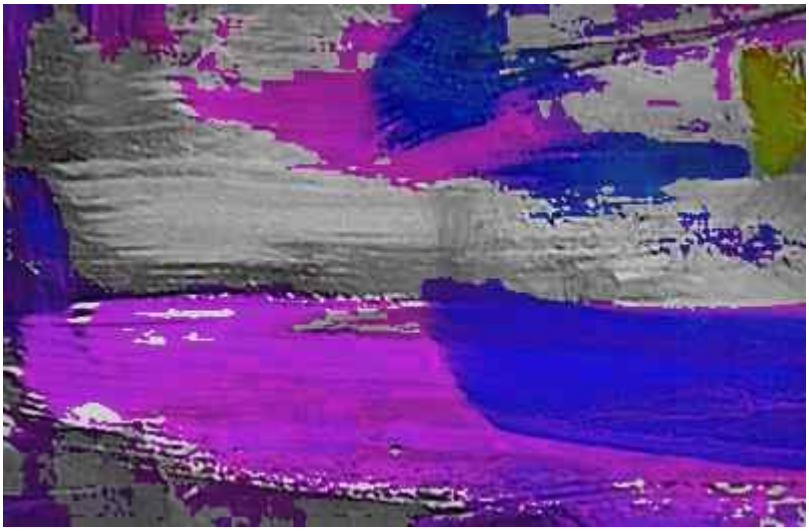
We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Where I Clean My Brushes, part II

Keys on nail
Oil, keys
2000

Howthehellshouldiknowwhatitis
Oil, 50x70 cm
2000



Just so
Oil, 60x80 cm
2000

Site Meter

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits

Choose an amount (USD)

$10 | $25

$50 | Custom: $

I'll generously add $0.52 to cover fees.

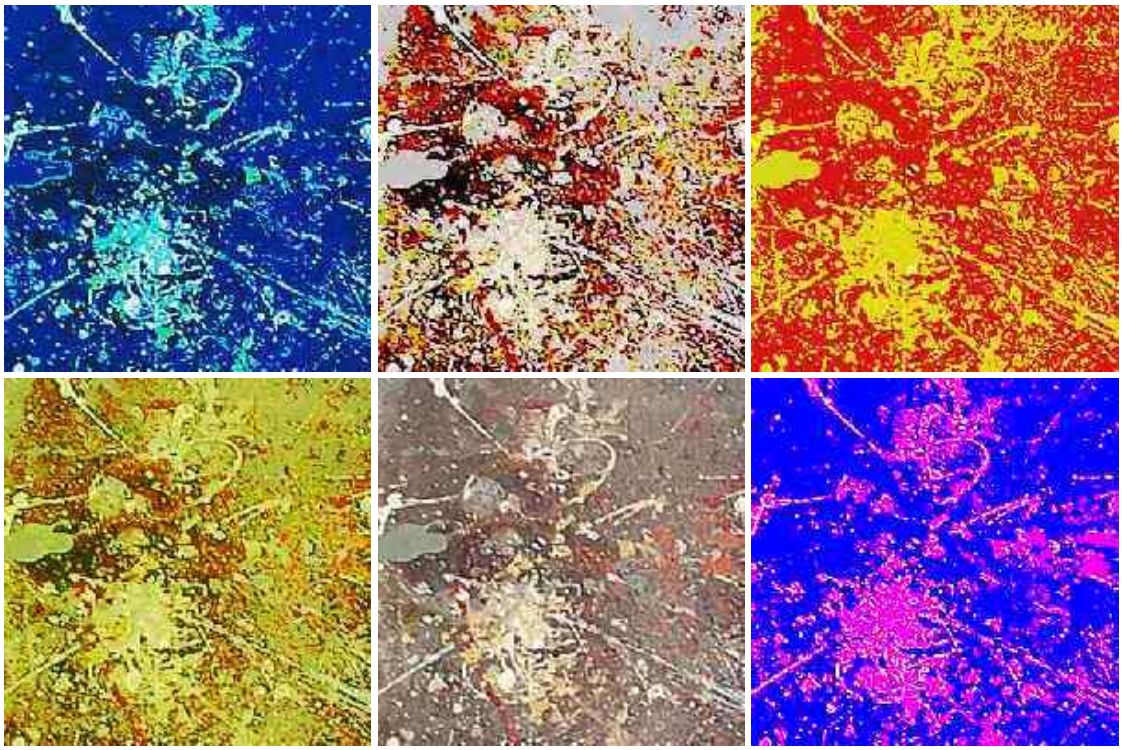
Make this monthly

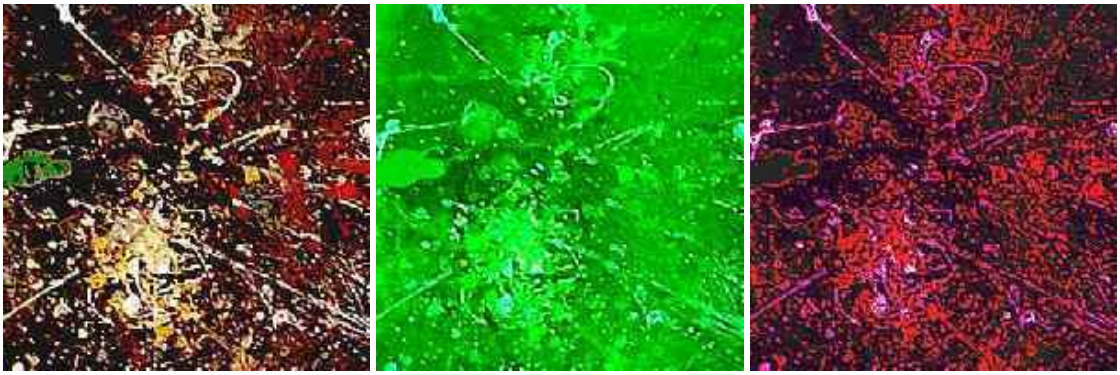
Continue

Maybe later

Paint Droppings

Nine projections of Jackson Pollock onto the seat of a chair.





Oil on plywood, 40x40 cm, 1999

The chair

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20171028145345/http://www.reshafim.org.il:80/ad/belly...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

Choose an amount (USD)

$10 | $25 | $50 | Custom: $

I'll generously add $0.52 to cover fees.

Make this monthly

Continue

Maybe later

A Few Belly Buttons to Help You on Your Way to Nirvana

For the advanced meditator: **a belly button without accessories**. ★★★★★
For the expert meditator: .... ★★★★★★

A few words of advice to the seeker of enlightenment

The best way to achieve Nirvana is through contemplation of one's own belly button. Beginners finding this difficult, get easily bored and distracted. Help is needed. You may consider contemplating your girlfriend's, boyfriend's, wife's, husband's, partner's or mate's belly button. Don't. After half an hour he/she will start to suspect that you are trying to take the mickey out of her/him. This page should therefore be considered as a training ground for the serious meditator.

Om.

★ beginner
★★ serious beginner
★★★ intermediate meditator
★★★★ experienced meditator

CS ★

NC ★★★

CC ★★

MS ★★ or ★★★★

EM ★

FV ★★

JM ★

SS ★★

CT ★

EH ★★★

CE ★★

HL ★★★★

LD ★★

CL ★

CA ★★

TB ★★★★

SB ★★★★

HF ★

WR ★★★★

DH ★★

Apology This isn't an equal opportunity meditation page yet. There are, as you may have noticed, only two male belly buttons at present. I'll try to remedy this in the future (the very moment i can take my eyes off TB's belly button).

PS The belly button without accessories on the other hand is completely politically correct and therefore highly recommended.

PPS

For all you lost souls, who reached this site of spiritual improvement while searching for the fleshpots of Egypt, try this site or this one. (this and this used to be links. But due to the vagaries of the internet these links keep disappearing and have been discontinued.)

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145347/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

You have chosen an arduous task: Ignore anything above and below the navel or your concentration will suffer. But if you do succeed, you are one giant step closer to Nirvana.

★★★★ For the experienced meditator

Return to Navel Base

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

The choice of a wise beginner. The wholesomeness of this belly button and its accoutrement will rarely interfere with your search for spiritual improvement. Should your attention stray, no great harm will have been done, and with a little will power you should be able to accomplish the task you set yourself.

★ For the beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Don't let her smile fool you and concentrate on the belly button and never forget your aim. As a beginner you should repeat your mantra whenever the spirit moves you.

★ For the beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145259/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Especially recommended for the colour blind.

★ For the beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145329/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They’re trying to change history—don’t let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we’re preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who’s saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

The only difficulty is this belly button's orientation. Being used to study them vertically, this one needs a change of perspective.

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145352/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

A tantalizer. She pulls down her pants and still one can just perceive the belly surrounding the button. Here you have to meditate on an inkling.

★★★★ For the experienced meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145203/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

The contemplation of this belly button is not recommended for those with impaired imaginative powers nor for those whose imagination is too lively. The very shadow that hides it is a symbol for the shadow of death we walk in while living our daily lives. Only well balanced personalities should attempt to face the challenge of contemplating this belly button

without the wisdom that comes with experience.

★★★ For the intermediate meditator

Return to Navel Base

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

This belly button may cause a slight distraction, though most have found it to be surmountable. Should you lose your concentration consider the option of returning to a one star belly button until you have gathered enough self confidence and experience.

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145308/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Gratefulness for her opening the top button of her pants should fire your zest to contemplate with utmost seriousness what she so graciously has revealed.

★★★ For the intermediate meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145335/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

A clean belly button for dirty minds.

★ For the beginning meditator

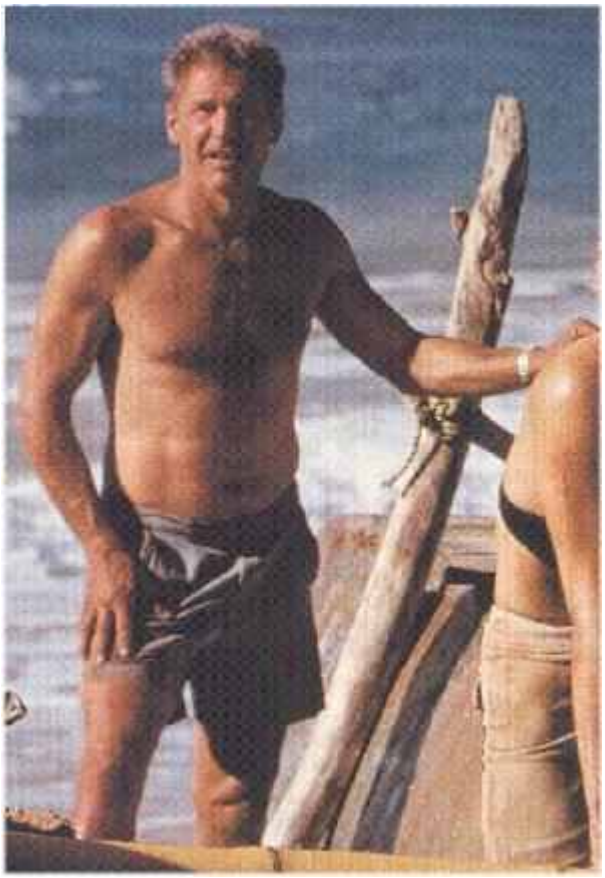
[Return to Navel Base]

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive



Few meditators will be distracted by this great actor's inimitable display of unattractiveness. This belly button is highly recommended for the easily excited.

★ For the beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145211/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

The mother of all innies, prominently displayed.

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

If the colour scheme doesn't put you off, this should be easy going. No longer than five minutes!

★ For the beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145314/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

[Return to Navel Base]

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

[Return to Navel Base]

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145404/http://www.reshafim.o...

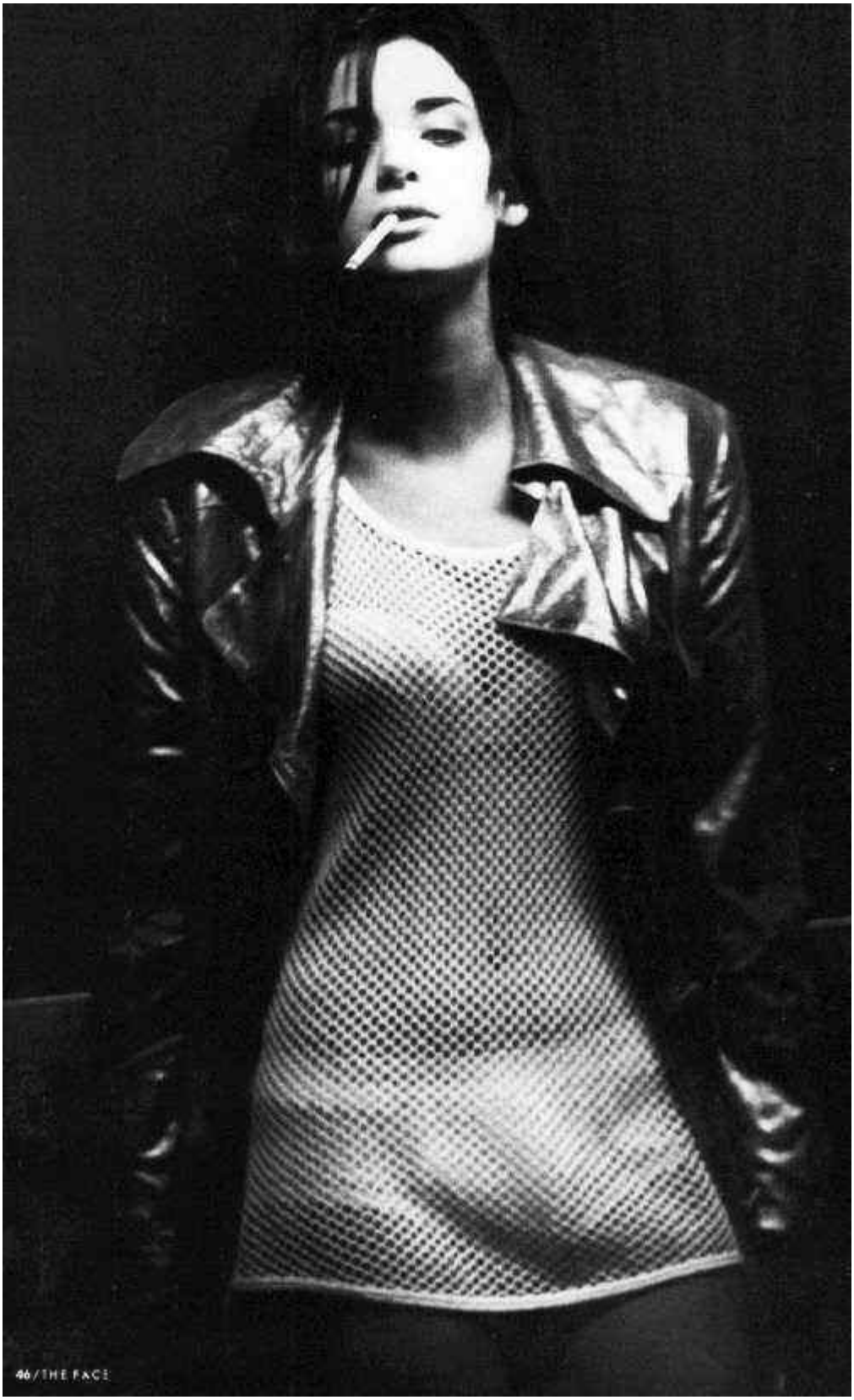
Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Your choice is admirable. By overcoming the attractions of a *femme fatale* whom you have seen on other occasions exuding innocence and making Bambi look like the personification of evil (thus stressing the relativity and inconstancy of the human condition), and by limiting yourself to the merest hint of a belly button, you have reached the level of a master of Zen.



★★★★ For the experienced meditator

Clarification
The Bambi I'm referring to is an innocent fawn and not the slut you picked up at the bar last Friday night.

Warning to fetishists
The shirt she is wearing is *not* made of chainmail!

Warning from the Sturgeon General
Smoking may be harmful to your health!

Return to Navel Base

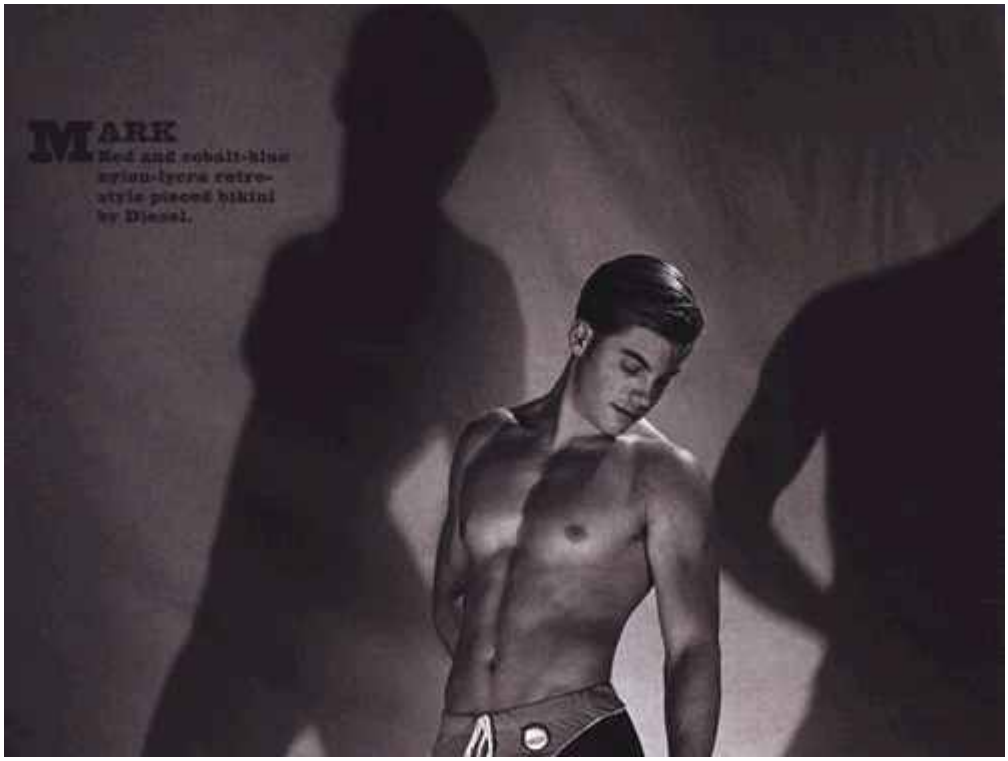
The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145215/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive



The beginner will be well advised to concentrate on the belly button clearly displayed.

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

The experienced meditator will enjoy the challenge of contemplating the shadow's belly button.

★★★★ For the experienced meditator

[Return to Navel Base](#)

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145245/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

Lace has been the undoing of many. Beware!

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145324/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

A difficult belly button. Your first task will be to think her arm away, before you can start concentrating on her belly button.

★★★★ For the experienced meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20151127145409/http://www.reshafim.o...

Can You Chip In?

They're trying to change history—don't let them. The Wayback Machine is a crucial resource in the fight against disinformation, and now more than ever we need your help. Right now we're preserving history as it unfolds, keeping track of who's saying what and when—all without charging for access, selling user data, or running ads. Instead, the Internet Archive (which runs this project) relies on the generosity of individuals to help us keep the record straight.

We don't ask often, but right now, we have a 2-to-1 Matching Gift Campaign, tripling the impact of every donation. If each of our users gave just $10, we could end this fundraiser today—so if you find all these bits and bytes useful, please pitch in.

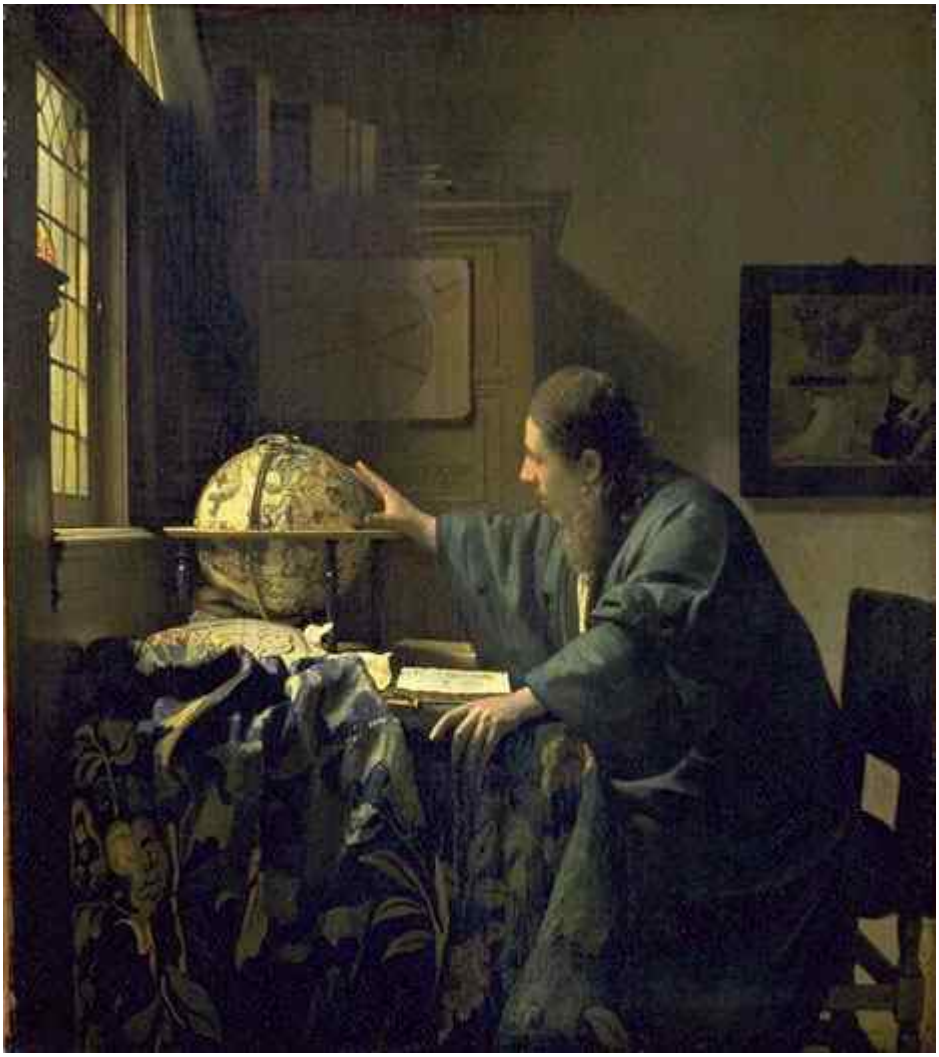
—Brewster Kahle, Founder, Internet Archive

A belly button half a metre wide! This should prove a relatively easy target. Hard to miss.

★★ For the serious beginning meditator

Return to Navel Base

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831082839/http://www.reshafim.o...



Jan Vermeer: The Astronomer, 1668

You may notice: astronomer, not astrologer. (Admittedly many astronomers dabbled in astrology as well, or even made a living from it as Kepler did.) Today we seem to be reverting to those dark days of obscurantism. We have lost our almost absolute faith in science and everything appears to have merit. Astrology doesn't. I still cherish a newspaper clipping in which some astrologers and others of their ilk were asked who would win the 1996 Israeli elections (Peres had a 5 to 15% advantage over Netan-yahoo according to public polls). Out of about twenty pundits just one

foretold a victory for Bibi.

- Bio and annotated Pics
- Genius Ignored
- Vermeer & the Art of Painting

Former Thumbnail - Next Thumbnail

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831082904/http://www.reshafim.o...

Rembrandt: Bath-sheba in the Bath

And it came to pass in an eveningtide, that David arose off from his bed, and walked upon the roof of the king's house: and from the roof he saw a woman washing herself; and the woman *was* very beautiful to look upon.
Samuel 11,2

- The Raising of Lazarus
(This picture came as a huge relief to me after my attempts at self portraiting. Mind you, I'm aware of the fact that in Rembrandt's times there were no flashbulbs yet. So it must have been more difficult for him. Still..)

  - **Not fair!**The site's gone without leaving a trace and so is the corpus delicti.
  - I've **found** it again. But it has been tampered with. It's not half as dark as it used to be.

- Quite a collection

Former Thumbnail Next Thumbnail

Home - MySelf - Thumbnails - IngrownToenails - BrushWork - BellyButtons - AncientEgypt

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140823133738/http://www.reshafim.o...

To view

my spot in the sun

click on the button

Get your own spot in the sun from

SunSpot Ink.

Updated November 2001

CONTENTS

- self portraits
- painted thumbnails
- musings on ingrowing toenails
- the meaning of life
- the bellman's chart in all its glory
- feeling blue
- a spot of paranoia
- links to the work of picasso, rembrandt, vermeer, bosch, dali, de la tour, escher, mondriaan, holbein, dürer, duerer
- The venus of milo
- a picture of madame d'estr&eacut;e
- humpty dumpty
- plant rights
- your getting your own spot in the sun but above all your finding mine
- remembering eeyore - yitzhaq rabin
- a plethora of celebrated belly buttons for meditation
- the navels belonging to claudia schiffer, naomi campbell, cindy crawford, laura dern, darryl hanna, tyra banks and other models and actrices

Scrub The Web

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831083006/http://www.reshafim.org.il/...

Madame d'Estrée and one of her Sisters

Quite naughty, those 16th century ladies.

Gabrielle d'Estrée, duchess of Beaufort was born in 1571, became the mistress of Henri IV of France and died at the age of 28.

The "Mémoires secrets de Gabrielle d'Estrée" were probably written by one of her friends. The royal bastardline of Vendôme was her legacy to mankind. Her son, César Duke of Vendôme, participated 1626 in a plot against Richelieu, was captured and freed three years later. He was accused of conspiracy again in 1641 and fled to England.

Former Thumbnail - Next Thumbnail

Home - MySelf - Thumbnails - IngrownToenails - BrushWork - BellyButtons - AncientEgypt

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831083028/http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/...

Georges de La Tour: Le Tricheur

De la Tour was born in 1593, lived in Lotharingia and was known as "peintre fameux" and "peintre du roy". Soon forgotten after his death he was rediscovered in 1914. Sic transit...

- La buona ventura

Former Thumbnail Next Thumbnail

Home - MySelf - Thumbnails - IngrownToenails - BrushWork - BellyButtons - AncientEgypt

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831083053/http://www.reshafim.o...

The Metamorphosis of Narcissus (1934) by Salvador Dali

Nobody can equal Dali at dreaming a dream and turning it into a nightmare. The brilliance of his painting is matched by the bleakness of his vision.

But drawn like moths to a candle we are always coming back for more (imagine a short list of appropriate Dali links here), or at least we were, before lawyers got their hands on them. This site is still just for educational purposes without even the slightest inkling of commercialisation and therefore the *Fair Use* policy applies. Lawyers, HUH!

Former Thumbnail - Next Thumbnail

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831082658/http://www.reshafim.o...

Pablo Picasso

Farmer's Wife on a Stepladder, 1933

- The official Picasso site.
- A bio and rome - no - omer - sorry - more. It's those **eyes**, you know, that do this to me.

Former Thumbnail - Next Thumbnail

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831083113/http://www.reshafim.o...

Gods and Kings

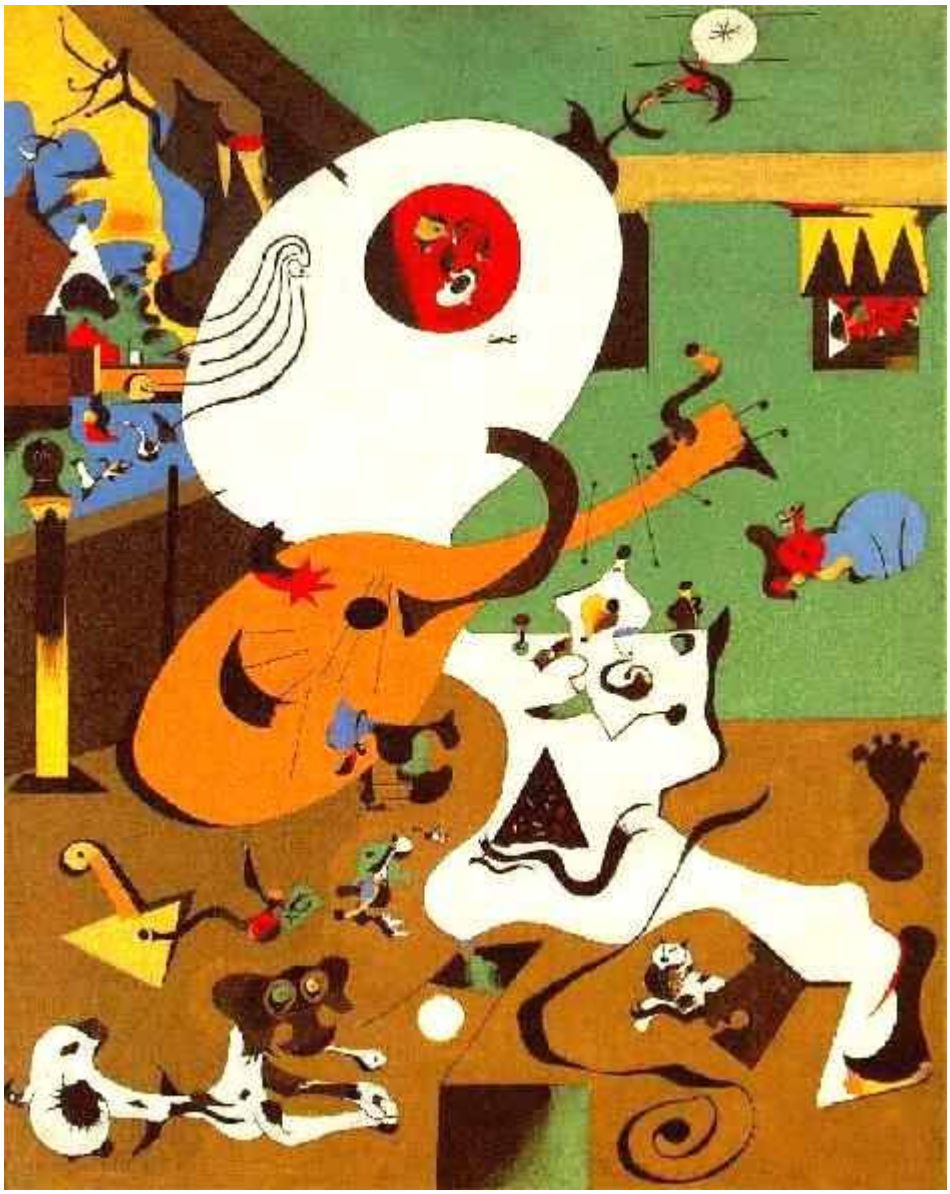
The goddess Hathor and King Seti I

King Seti I (1302-1290 BC) waged wars against the Hittites and Libyans and built great temples at Thebes and Abydos as a sort of after-life insurance. The goddess Hathor often sported a cows head. She began her career as goddess of the heavens and love, diversifying into Egypt's really big business, death.
Is it just a coincidence, that she looks a bit anorectic?

- Ancient Egypt: Gods, pharaohs, culture and a short history, with quite a few useful links.
- If a pile of bricks constitutes a piece of art in the 20th century then so does the Egyptian brick to be found here.
- More about Egypt
- King Tut

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831083134/http://www.reshafim.o...



Joan Miro

Dutch Interior I, 1928

This is one of those instances when I'm glad I'm not a charwoman: My fingers begin to itch - the impulse to start cleaning up the clutter becomes overwhelming - the tea flowing down my throat loses its powers to soothe .... fortunately help is just one mouse-click away.

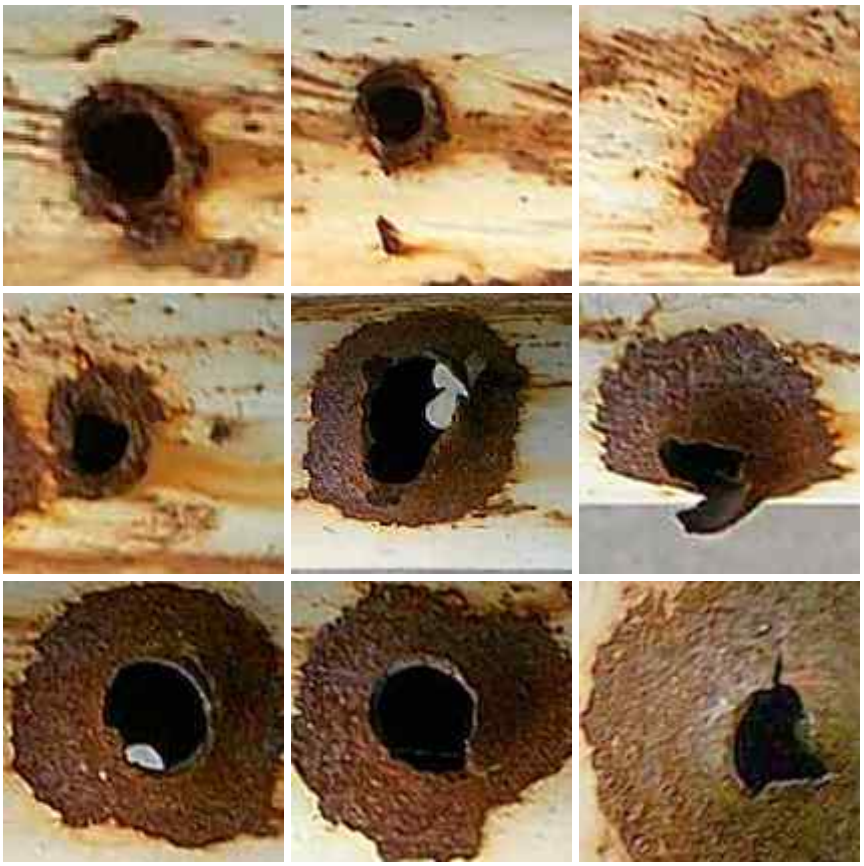
- Lithographs
- Paintings, Statues
- Fine Art Paintings and Graphics

Former Thumbnail

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140828180343/http://www.reshafim.o...

Bullets through steel



Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065116/http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/to...

about myself

i'm not much into drugs. i've tried hash, twice, donkeys years ago, got sick (twice, five minutes later) and never tried again. Unlike a certain personality (see below) **I** did inhale.

First Ingrowing Toenail

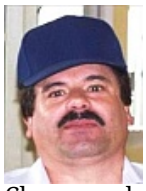
Why not try something else?

Admittedly taking drugs isn't such a good idea on the whole. But the way we've been trying to prevent people from taking them, isn't very clever either, and **it hasn't worked.** A new attitude towards the problem might just be appropriate.

Since we are living in the best of possible capitalist worlds why not accept the fact, that, as long as there is a demand, someone will try to satisfy it - at a price. That leaves us with three main choices:

- The status quo
- A *laissez-faire* policy
- Damage Control through Management

The status quo



El Chapo made a killing or two in the 21st century selling carbohydrates.

Probably the worst of all possible choices, based on the American penchant for punishment. Americans love criminals. And so they turn as many as twenty percent of their population into criminals. They've done it before in the twenties with prohibition and seeing what a disaster (not unmitigated, perhaps) it was, they do it again. Outlawing drugs will only work if you remove the users. No buyers and the sellers will be out of work. But even the Godly noticed, that you can't lock up fifty million people. (They are having a good go at it though.) And so they leave the users on the streets looking for their fix and try to catch the dealers.

It hasn't worked and it won't work because it can't. People are willing to pay even the exorbitant prices set (inadvertently) by the police. And the surviving cats grow fat and worse, practically untouchable. Drug sales are second only to weapons sales and the huge fortunes amassed by criminals are more dangerous to society than the drug taking and the petty crime of the users.

Alphonse made a killing or two in the 20th century selling carbohydrates.

Advocates of the status quo should always ask themselves: Has their policy achieved its aims? Are there less drug users (most users aren't addicts)? Has the economic and political power of the drug barons been curbed? Is the police force becoming more law enforcing and law abiding?

Laissez-faire

Accepted economic wisdom would have us believe, that giving free reign to the market forces would cure all our ills. It doesn't, of course. The moment people had the power, they got rid of it's worst aspects. Greed is not one of the most endearing qualities a person can have and shouldn't be the main criterion in our decision making.
Prices in a market economy may seem to be low, unfortunately they are only a down payment. The hidden costs are generally much higher than this first instalment, and very often paid by somebody else.

Managing the problem

Rocky made a killing (or several) in the 19th century selling carbohydrates.

People have always drugged themselves, and considering the mounting pressures they are under nowadays, it's no wonder they do today. So let us sell them what they need, but as wisely as that can be done. In the Netherlands Grass has been freely sold in coffee shops for years with few adverse results (see The New Scientist).
I wouldn't entrust the sale of harder drugs to people driven by market forces. They should probably be sold by non-profit organisations powerful enough to withstand the attempts of organized crime to take over and inefficient enough not to attempt any marketing (which in these circles would be called pushing). The executive(?) branch of government seems to be perfect for the purpose.

Prices should be high enough to cover all the expenses of growing and distributing the drugs and leave enough money for the establishment of drug rehabilitation centres, anti drug education, support of unemployable addicts, councelling for family members and the fight against illegal vendors.
They should be low enough to be affordable for working people (the vast majority of users). In the case of addicts they would probably have to be distributed free of charge in order to prevent drug related crime.

It might be best if the drugs were consumed **on the premises**, administered by the centre's medically trained employees thus preventing infections and the spreading of diseases. Cots should be at the disposal of the customers (The old days opium den wasn't such a bad idea: You had a place to lie down and enjoy your vice, you were relatively safe from attacks, and you didn't drive your car or ride your horse, as it was then, while under the influence. In case of anything going wrong there was the "den mother" to either look after you, call for assistance or kick you out on the street.).

A special problem is deciding on the **age limit**. Drug abuse is a *juvenile* disease, but few people in their right minds would want ten year old children to have free access to drugs. Yet if the age limit is set too high, the underage market might be too big to be controllable.
A good age might be, when you're allowed to mess up your own life by drinking liquor, getting married and dropping out of school or mess up somebody else's by driving a car, getting married, buying firearms and electing some nincompoop.

Links

- The New Scientist: Marijuana Special Report
- Salon Magazine: The elephant in the room

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065216/http://www.reshafim.o...

Second Ingrowing Toenail

The Meaning of Life

The other day i came across

So i asked an easy enough question: **What is the meaning of life?**

And here are a few of the answers:

- Life Skills Program

Life Skills Program The focus of this NCAA-sponsored program is on five areas viewed as critical to the personal growth of our UB student-at
http://aas.buffalo.edu/aasproj.htm

- Life Insurance

Home Find Books Search Mega-Browse™ Specials New Books Bestsellers Ordering View Cart Shipping Info About Us E-Mail Life Insurance Auth
http://alldirect.com/book.cfm?CartID=276539390021798&is

- Life Sciences Computing Page

Computing Life Sciences Computational Support Facility Announcements | Mission Statement | Personnel Services Offered Networking | Se
http://amoeba.pai.utexas.edu/lscsf/computing.html

- LIFE IN A BLENDER

LIFE IN A BLENDER (quicktime 1.1MB, mpeg coming soon)
Described by the Knitting Factory as "A more dissonant brand of rock: powerful, pulsin
http://art.net/TheGallery/CanyonVideo/blender.htm

- Life in Athens, Georgia

Athens Life - information for Athens, Georgia. We strive to be one of the regions best sites. Visit Athens Life at http://athenslife.com If
http://athenslife.com/zathens4.asp

- LIFE - Education

LIFE * What's New * About This Service * Australia * Biological Information * Complexity * Education *

Environment * Organisations * Heritag
http://batcall.csu.edu.au/education_nf.html

- Life of Brian: Scene 28

Scene 28 Parvus and Mr. Cheeky PARVUS: Get a move on, there! MR. CHEEKY: Or what? PARVUS: Or you'll be in trouble. MR. CHEEKY: Oh, dear. You
http://bau2.uibk.ac.at/sg/python/Scripts/LifeOfBrian/br

etc etc etc
All these sites were marked: probably contains your answer

Not very helpful, but there are a few sparks:

- **There is life in Athens, Georgia**
- **The auth isn't extinct yet.** (just - what is an auth?)
- **Life in a blender in quicktime** - how true.

I suppose it'll be a long time yet, before we get anything like an **appropriate** answer from people or machines. But i was looking in the wrong place. At the top of the page, right under the input box, i read (in exceedingly small letters):
Finding answers, please be patient...

That was in the year 2000. I'm **still** waiting.

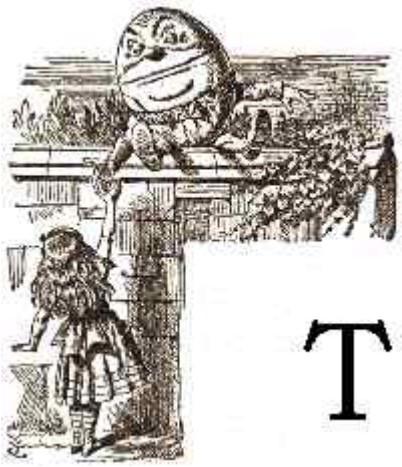
(Of course we all know the answer thanks to The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy.)

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065237/http://www.reshafim.o...

Third Ingrowing Toenail

Humpty's Page



True, Humpty Dumpty may not be the most agreeable character the world has ever seen, but nobody deserves to be treated the way, he's being treated. His whole life everybody made fun of him because of his figure. Small wonder he became an obnoxious egghead. And now they are collecting his effigy, they have clubs, webrings and what nots.

The important thing about Humpty Dumpty isn't his form but his intellectual achievements. He quite rightly noticed that there were many more un-birthdays than birthdays. His poem "In Winter when the Fields are White" can hardly be forgotten by anyone exposed to it at an impressionable age. Yet his expertise lies neither in mathematics nor in poetry, but in semantics.

> *Judge Alderson had to try a man clearly guilty of having stolen a pair of shoes. He had decided not to brief Counsel and this made the judge even more anxious to be helpful.*
> *"Do tell the jury exactly what happened," he said in a kindly tone.*
> *The man shuffled uncomfortably in the shoes concerned.*

about myself

when i grew up i had the **right** skin,eye and hair color, belonged to the **right** religion and one of the two major sex groups, went to the **right** schools and was as far from being a member of a disadvantaged minority as you can possibly be. adolescence changed all that. suddenly i belonged to a minority group of one. and such a group has very few proud members.

so i beg indulgence of all those who grew up with a chip on their shoulder: i have an inkling of what you must have gone through, but i really can't **know**.

"Well, my lord, it was like this",he said conversationally. "I saw the shoes on a stall outside the shop and thought I might have a bit of fun with the chap who owned the shop. As soon as his back was turned, I just leaned over and took 'em."
"So it was only a practical joke?" murmured the judge.
"Yes, it was," agreed the accused eagerly.
"And how far did you carry the shoes?"
"A matter of a couple of miles, my lord."
Alderson turned to the jury. "I think that is carrying the joke too far, don't you?"

Stanley Jackson: Laughter at Law

Humpty Dumpty of course understood, what the real question was, in his words: *Which is to be the master*, or in the above case: How far can you carry a joke?
He solved the problem of meaning by paying the words extra when he made them do a lot of work.

And he certainly wasn't the only one to do so. Famous examples of enhanced words must include Freedom (very popular in capitalist states), Democracy (specially beloved by communists) and SEX or perhaps NOT SEX (Bill Clinton). One should expect Freedom to be quite well of and Democracy sporting a chest full of medals. And of course one always wonders what Sex got out of it.

Another word doing overtime is God. And it gets mostly paid with the lives of those who don't believe. I often ask myself, whether God shouldn't be given a rest.

* * *

An interesting facet of Humpty's character is his **Pride** (definitely written and pronounced with a capital P). That pride comes before the fall, is a popular misconception. Most people who took a fall, were never particularly proud. And few mishaps happen to proud people. Humpty's pride isn't *hubris*, the kind greek tragedies are made *on*, but rather the having-kept-up-with-the-Joneses and having-gone-one-better sort, a sad sort of pride really.

And talking of pride: Should I be proud of my blue eyes? or my blonde hair? or the fact that I'm 5ft 9? (Having whetted your appetite I refer you to a picture of me.) Most sensible people would consider such pride to be a bit ridiculous and possibly pathetic. I might reasonably pride myself on my achievements: climbing the Everest for example (even though for the life of me I can't understand, why anybody would want to do that). But it is a bit sad when people have to pride themselves on what they are.

Take pride weeks. Their very existence is ominous, meaning that admitting what you are, is considered such a feat, that you can or perhaps even should be proud of it. Nobody ought to feel ashamed for being white, female or homosexual, but there's not much to be proud of it either.

* * *

Humpty's views on what the human anatomy could look like, must have been among the most progressive of his time. What might have happened, had Humpty chosen to become an artist, a sculptor or at least a plastic surgeon instead of sitting on his wall (no mean feat by itself). The mind boggles at the thought.

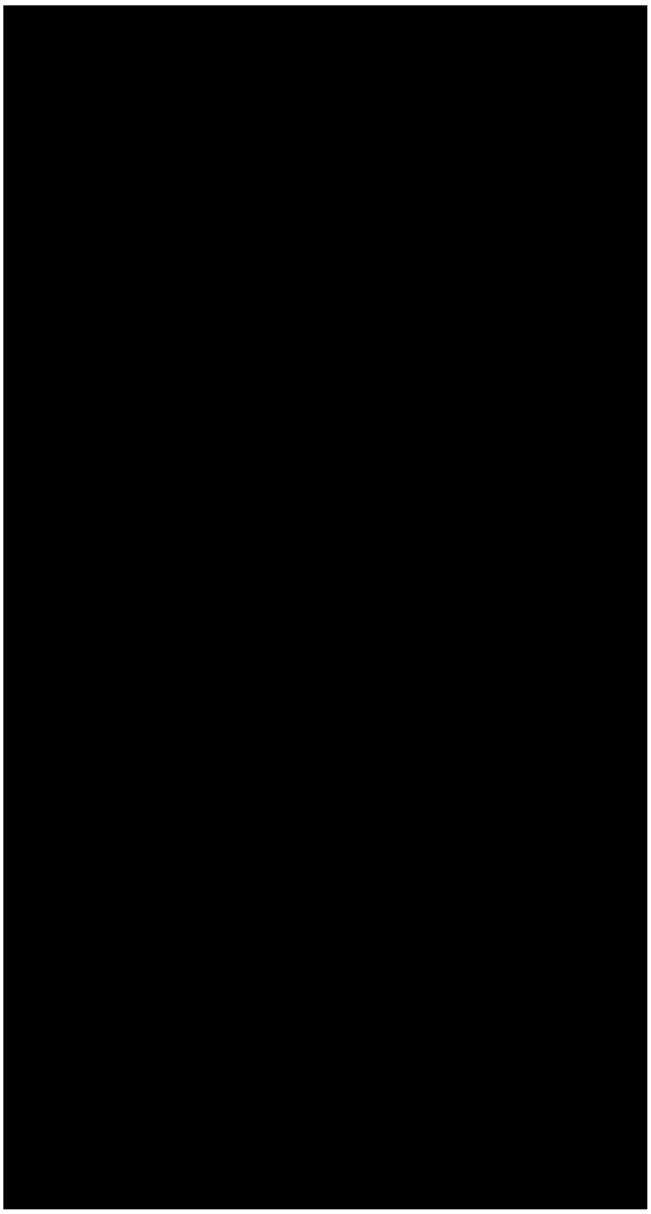
"Your face is the same as everybody has- the two eyes, so-" (marking their places in the air with his thumb) "nose in the middle, mouth under. It's always the same. Now if you had the two eyes on the same side of the nose, for instance- or the mouth at the top- that would be some help." "It wouldn't look nice," Alice objected. But Humpty Dumpty only shut his eyes, and said "Wait till you've tried."

The words of a prophet in the Victorian wilderness.

Site Meter

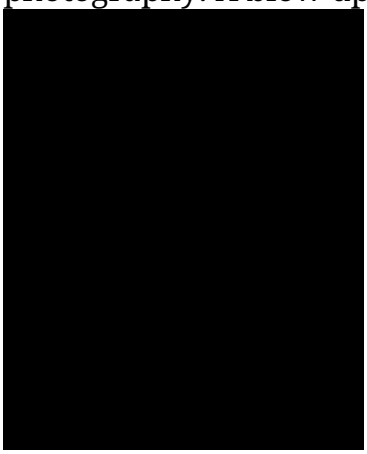
The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831082440/http://www.reshafim.o...

The Fullsized Pics for the Aficionado



Self portait with stray taken at night, copyright by the author, 1998.
Archivally processed gelatin silver print. Image size 9"x12".

For the serious student of photography: A blow up



Tête, de face. Detail from Self portait with stray taken at night, copyright by the author, 1998.
Archivally processed gelatin silver print. Image size 9"x12".

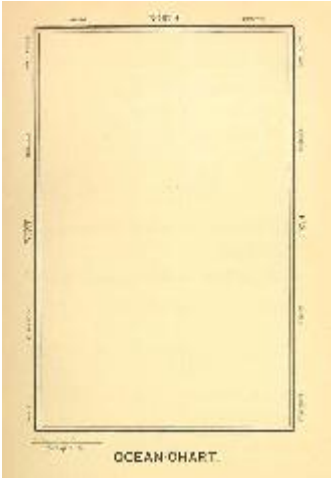
After rotating the above excerpt through 80 degrees along the vertical axis

Tête, de profil. Detail from Self portait with stray taken at night, copyright by the author, 1998.
Archivally processed gelatin silver print. Image size 9"x12".

Some rather perverse people mistook this selfportrait of mine for the Bellman's chart.So I tried to find a copy of the

Selfportait taken at night,
copyright by the author, 1998.
Archivally processed jelly gold print. Image size 9"x12".

chart on the net and came across lots of unillustrated editions of **The Hunting of the Snark**, some even with ***line numbers***! There is no end to selfdeception. The Hunting without the chart is like a Bellman without a bell.
In the end I found **it**, curls and all.

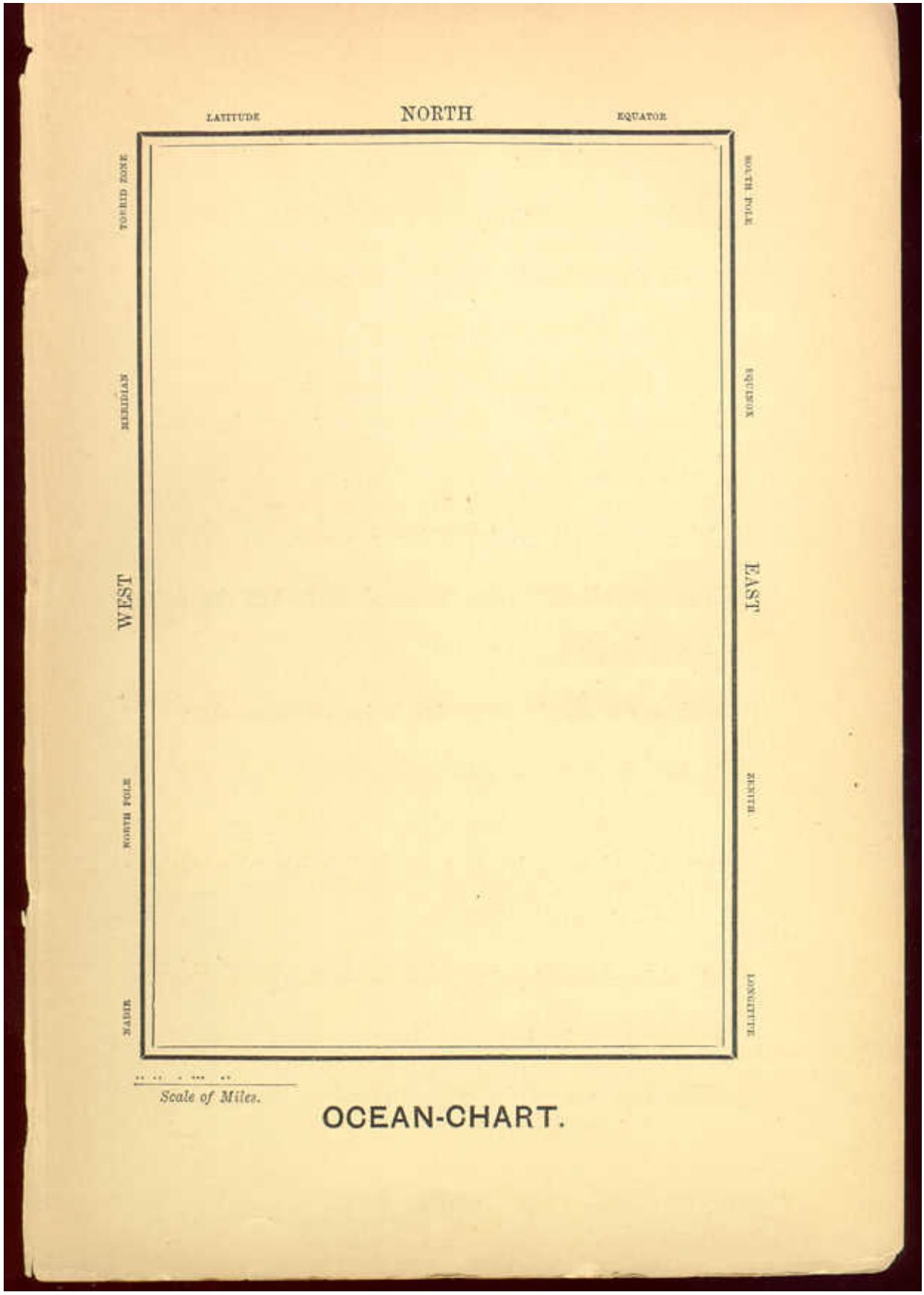


Copy it and learn its features by heart. It'll be no end of a help in your future life.

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140911161317/http://www.reshafim.o…

The Bellman's Chart



Words fail me.

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065259/http://www.reshafim.o…

Fourth Ingrowing Toenail

The Need for a Plant Rights Movement

"How is it you can all talk so nicely?" Alice said, hoping to get it into a better temper by a compliment. "I've been in many gardens before, but none of the flowers could talk."
"Put your hand down and feel the ground," said the Tiger-lily. "then you'll know why."
Alice did so. "It's very hard," she said; "but i don't see what that has to do with it."
"In most gardens," the Tiger-lily said, "they make the beds too soft - so that the flowers are always asleep."

Through the Looking Glass by Lewis Carroll

People have become aware of the plight of animals in the last few years, but consciousness of the plants' predicament barely exists. They are rarely seen or cherished as individuals but only as collectives. Rainforests must be preserved but what about the trees living in them? Acid rain endangers the forests in the developed countries, nobody notices the suffering of a single tree. Plants may have no central nervous system but **suffer they do**.

Vegetarians and animal rights activists unfortunately don't

about myself
i'm so sorry. i couldn't help

myself. i know i shouldn't poke fun at other people's beliefs. but animal rights activists are such easy targets. they are generally so full of themselves, so righteous, so bigotted - almost as much as i am myself.

they are **right** about a few things, though. animals should be treated properly while they are alive, but i wasn't wholly joking: so should all living things, plants and people included.

i don't know what people mean, when they talk about a creator. but i do know that all living things on earth share a common patrimony: we are all made of the same stuff, so we had better stick together.

p.s. and i don't mind being eaten by creepy-crawlies once i'm dead. it's just part of life, isn't it?

improve the situation. One might expect people fighting for the rights of one part of creation not to call for the ruthless exploitation of another. But the cry for plant destruction comes loudest from those who don't eat meat. You may not kill baby seals to keep warm in their skins during the freezing days of winter, but baby plants may be **murdered** and turned into food.

Sometimes even the use of discarded or renewable animal parts such as sheep wool is frowned upon and the **assassination** of cotton plants advocated. It's not as if we just used plants that had died. We go out there with sickles, scythes, axes, chainsaws, harvesters and other instruments of destruction and cut, slash, saw and kill. We fell beautiful trees in their prime, we reap the seeds of plants, we dig up their roots.

Many people think plants don't suffer when they get hurt. We do not know whether they have feelings which we could recognize as such, but we do know that they try to defend themselves from getting hurt. Plants have ways for closing wounds inflicted upon them. A few try to refrain from being touched. Many use poisons to ward of marauders. Some species warn each other when they are attacked by insects. They sense light, smell, taste, touch maybe even sound: They are **sentient** beings.

Plants may be slow to react and are often helpless. But look at our reactions towards animals in distress and let us treat plants alike. We should respect their right to the pursuit of happiness which isn't less than our own.

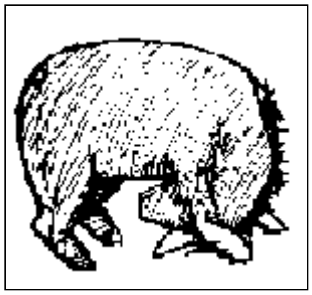
Let us therefore heed the call for a complete moratorium on the use of all living things!

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065324/http://www.reshafim.o...

Fifth Ingrowing Toenail

Remembering Eeyore



Living in a world of shades of grey tending towards black, Eeyore remains one of the more colourful characters of world literature. Grouchy, graceless and ungrateful he lives under shadows of perpetual persecution. And facing imagined wrongs he soldiers on, grumbling.

Over the years, whenever i came into contact with Milne's world, i always had the feeling of growing up, not the kind you do as an adolescent but rather the important one, the Christopher Robin kind, when the child discovers worlds so much greater than he ever had imagined.

While i had come to love Eeyore by reading the books, he took on a new dimension when i listened to the stories on records. His voice which up to then had been disembodied, became substantial to me: slow, monotone, joyless, and very like the voice of the murdered Israeli prime minister Yitzhaq Rabin. And that's how Rabin came to be known as Eeyore in my family. True, Rabin may have been the life of any party he attended, but this was hardly the persona he showed to the public. His wit and repartee may have been a byword among his friends, but none of this came to the knowledge of the many headed.

And like Pooh's Eeyore, the prime minister Eeyore often exasperated me, with his lack of grace, his stubborness, his snide remarks. But then the incredible happened: the grumpy caterpillar turned into a (still grumpy) butterfly - the man who had fought the Palestinians began to talk to them. And just as incredible: the Palestinians began to talk to the Israelis.

The outcome was the Oslo accord, a document so full of holes, that in comparison a Swiss cheese was as impenetrable as the Berlin wall.

Yet with a little goodwill it could be made to work.

But little of that goodwill has survived Rabin's murder, and little of the hope. And i miss Eeyore.

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065343/http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/so...

Sixth Ingrowing Toenail

Social Awareness

This is Capitalism's finest hour. The market economy reigns supreme and the few non-capitalist pockets cannot endanger it. Soviet type socialism, having been finally discredited, isn't offering an alternative to anybody but the most starry-eyed idealist.

What might be the consequences of this on the whole welcome demise of a not very attractively implemented ideology? The first to react to the worsening of conditions in Eastern Europe and the accompanying weakening of the communist influence on Western workers were what used to be called the Capitalists.

Supported by conservative governments they began putting the squeeze on their workforce. And, in Great Britain for instance, they succeded in severely reducing the influence organized labour exerted on the economical and political systems. The refusal of the unions to accept adaptation to changing conditions brought about by new technologies weakened them in the eyes of the public and reduced the support they had enjoyed.

This trend may be expected to continue. By dumping unwanted workers into the lap of a society aware of the costs of upkeeping millions of people, the problem is acerbated. What we will probably see is an increase in the number of people living at and beyond the edges of society, disenfranchised and hopeless. Labour unions will abandon their role as speakers for the less well off parts of society and

concentrate solely on the improvement of conditions for their own members. A quarter of the population in industrialized countries will live in social limbo.

Capitalists, just as workers, are better organized and informed today, than they were in the 19th century. They will therefore probably not repeat all the mistakes made by their predecessors. They will look after their own workforce reasonably well. After all, while they may be expensive to keep, they will also consume what they produce and support the existing system. They will try and limit the cost to society of the unemployed, but they will be careful not to push them too far, as an explosion of people who have nothing to lose will be too dangerous and too expensive.

Continue

Home

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140831082720/http://www.reshafim.org.il/ad/so...

Social Awareness

continued

Capitalism is a system based upon greed, greed for power, for luxury, for adventure. Their proponents on the whole are not the black hearted villains old time revolutionaries loved to hate, but the system itself is of an insidious nature. Even the best hearted employer cannot ignore what his competitors are doing, whether legal or not. If everybody dumps his waste wherever possible and thus cutting costs, even an environmentally minded employer will be hard put not to follow suit. Sometimes he may find acceptable solutions, sometimes he may prefer to accept what appears to him the inevitable, generally he will do as everybody does.

The intelligent entrepreneur will support the efforts of green groups and so while earning brownie points for good behaviour also achieve a level starting position with his competitors. If he doesn't succeed, he will join in the destruction.
Any employer will limit his expenses to the best of his abilities, wages among them. But while he will pay his own employees as little as he can, he will support his rivals' employees demands for "decent" wages. Unless idiocy prevails, most employers will go on accepting that the continued prosperity of their own companies requires adequate remuneration of their workforces.
Still, a trend of breaking the influence of the trade unions through personal contracts can be seen best in the non traditional high-tech sectors. While wages are very good for these workers as demand still outweighs supply, should this situation change, they will have to face their employers on their own and their position will be weakened.

Trade unions are vital to a properly functioning economic system. They even out the imbalance of influence between workers and management. Unions shouldn't achieve stranglehold positions, but their continued existence is imperative. Of late, many employees have abandoned membership, as they couldn't perceive any benefits resulting from it. This attitude is extremely short sighted. Many social achievements of organized labour have become law in the industrialized countries. But just as laws can be enacted, they can be abolished.

Capitalism is quite good at solving short term problems. But sometimes the feedback it relies upon, is too slow. When you have to satisfy rather short sighted stockholders, you can rarely afford to take a long term view. This must be imposed upon them by law and strictly enforced, not easy in the face of the common interest between capitalists and the consuming citizens. Capitalism has a "dog eat dog" philosophy and must be closely watched. We should never forget, that the economy and its accompanying -isms exist for mankind and not the other way around.

A return to 19th century conditions is improbable, as long as people are aware of history. With the deterioration of the schoolsystem we see a lessening in this awareness. Let us hope we won't be forced to repeat the mistakes of our past.

But...

Previous Next

Home

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140829065407/http://www.reshafim.o...

Seventh Ingrowing Toenail

Off with his Head

I may simply be less impetuous than the Queen of Hearts and have therefore never been caught shouting publicly "Off with his head!". But my first reactions to some crimes are as visceral as those of any backwood redneck. An eye for an eye seems to be the right and the only possible answer, for a short moment at least.

But then second thoughts arise, uncomfortable ones, memories of people hanged who were later proven to have been innocent, and I'm rather glad I don't shout "Off with his head!". Sneaking like the King of Hearts behind his wife's back and pardoning everybody, isn't much of a solution either. When crimes have been committed, society must be seen to react to them, justly if possible, justly - because some of us have enough imagination to consider the possibility, that either "there but for the grace of god, go I", or that we might just have been in the wrong place at the wrong time.

Justice, as dispensed by human beings, is about as fallible as any of our other endeavours: betting on the ponies or electing promising presidents spring to mind. What may seem to be beyond reasonable doubt today may very well be seen as having been unduly influenced by prejudice tomorrow, the Salem witch trials should make us aware of this. And then you've got good old fashioned lying, indulged in quite frequently by witnesses, lawyers and officers of the law. Cussedness of judges, who are usually of imperious character and not overly prone to self-doubts, adds to the dangers. Personally - and as a more or less innocent citizen of good repute - given a choice between fleeing justice and standing trial for my life, I'm not

sure I'd choose the latter. I'm not really a betting man.

Links

I do not assume any resposibility for the content or availability of these websites.

Death Penalty Information Center

Center on Wrongful Convictions

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140828050316/http://www.reshafim.o...

SunSpot Ink.

The *HOTTEST* proposition ever to come your way!
Your very own spot in the sun !

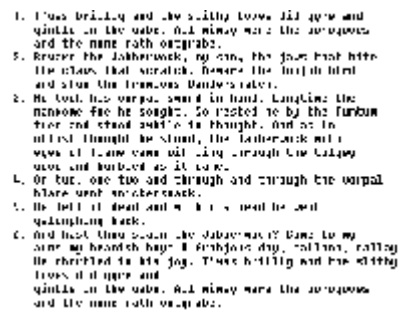
One acre of sizzling real estate for only 99.95

Fill in the order form below

Your name :

Your email:

Read the small print below carefully before submitting your order!



I ACCEPT THE CONDITIONS ABOVE | CLEAR

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140911161236/http://www.reshafim.o...

Where I Clean My Brushes, part III

Oil on steel and MDF
Oil, 48x64 cm
2000

Site Meter

The Wayback Machine - https://web.archive.org/web/20140828180246/http://www.reshafim.o...

Ban all banners!

Banners, huh ?!

What about those bloody frames which leave you a window the size of a THUMBNAIL for what's really important ? And what about the SPAWNING of all those myriads of new windows?

Banners? Huh!!

Site Meter